Numb. 24.

# THE TATLER Revived.

By ISAAC BICKERSTAFF Esq;

*Quicquid agunt Homines nostri Farrago Libelli.*

*To be Continued on* MONDAYS *and* FRIDAYS.

FRIDAY, *January* 5. 172⅞.

I HAD a Memorial laid before me some time ago by an elderly Man, with a demure Countenance, and a very sly Look; and, as it seems to set forth, that the Livelihood of no small Number of the Poorer sort of his Majesty's Subjects, and the Understandings of a very considerable part of the Rich, depend upon its Success; I am very sorry that I cannot come in to approve of the Matter of it. However, as I would not be thought to neglect any part of my Duty, or to decline lending my Assistance to promote a Charitable Work, without sufficient grounds, I shall insert the said Memorial at full Length in my present Paper: and then give my Reasons why I think I ought not to comply with the desire of it.

To ISAAC BICKERSTAFF Esq; Censor of *Great Britain*;

*The Memorial of* Obadiah Buywell, *Chapman for Live-Hair, in Behalf of* Elizabeth Whitehead, *Widow, and of several hundred other poor distressed Sufferers*;

*Humbly setteth forth*,

THAT a great part of the Subsistence of the said Widow *Whitehead*, and her five Fatherless Children, depends upon the Product of their respective Heads, the exuberant Crops of which are constantly sheared twice a Year, and sold to the said *Obadiah Buywell*, who furnishes Materials for the covering of the Seat of the Brain of the Gentlemen of the best Fashion about Town.

THAT the Consumption of Hair has decreased to so great a degree within the space of these two Years last past, that the said *O. B.* cannot at present afford to give above one fourth part of what he used to do formerly for the Annual Growths of the several Heads for which he deals; to the very great Impoverishment of the said Widow *Whitehead*, and many hundred other distressed Families, whose Livelihood in a great measure depends upon the Sale of their said respective Crops.

THAT the too common disuse of the said Commodity does not only tend to the utter Ruin of the said poor Sufferers, but also to the manifest Damage of the Intellectuals of no small Number of his Majesty's richer Subjects, whose Brains were very much injured by being too slightly cover'd the last Winter.

THAT this may be proved to a Demonstration, by examining into the present Condition of the Capacities of the several young Gentlemen who ran too unadvisedly into this airy Fashion; whose Understandings will in general most evidently appear to be in a much weaker State, than those of others of the same Rank and Age, who have acted with more Caution; and are therefore in very imminent Danger of being entirely starved in a very short time, if they are not soon better defended from the Rigour of the present Season.

THAT the said *O. B.* is himself no ways interested in the Matter, as he always takes care to buy the said Commodities pro-

(Price Two Pence.)

proportionably at the ſame Rate as he is obliged to ſell them.

THAT he is therefore moved to make this Remonſtrance from the ſole Principle of Chriſtian Charity, out of a tender Compaſſion for the preſſing Neceſſities of ſo great a Number of the poorer ſort, and out of a real Concern for the hazardous Situation of the Intellectuals of many of the richer part of his Fellow-Subjects: And ſo humbly hopes, that from the ſame Motives of Humanity, the Caſe will be ſeriouſly conſidered, and thoroughly redreſſed by a Perſon who aſſumes the Title of CENSOR of *Great Britain*. *And then*, &c.

I cannot but acknowledge, that the Obſervation in the ſaid Memorial about the ill State of the Brain of the ſeveral young Gentlemen, who for ſome time laſt paſt, have been ſo thinly provided with Coverings for the Seat of their Underſtanding, will commonly hold good: but I cannot agree with the ſaid *O. B.* that this general Weakneſs of their Intellectuals has any ways proceeded from the Reaſon he aſſigns. My Friend *O. B.* in his Zeal againſt the preſent Mode, might perhaps further urge, that none of the promoters of it are ſo over-ſtock'd with Brain, but that they have abundant occaſion to cheriſh all that Providence has given them. This, I muſt confeſs, may be in a good meaſure true; but ſtill it does not come at all up to the Point: For I affirm, that the nine Hairs of a ſide, is not to be looked upon as the inward Cauſe, but only as the outward Indication of a weak Intellectual. Whilſt I behold the Faſhion in this Light, I cannot but very highly approve of it; ſince it is a very great part of my Office as a CENSOR, to ſee that every body is properly habited; and I know no reaſon why we ſhould not take care to diſtinguiſh the different Qualities of our Underſtandings, as well as of our Births and Fortunes, by our Dreſs. As I love to follow Nature, it was with great concern that I obſerved heretofore, that an immoderate Load of Hair was made uſe of as a Mark of a barren Head. This was acting in downright Contradiction to Nature and right Reaſon: But we now moſt certainly follow both, when we expreſs the Shallowneſs of the Soil within, by the Thinneſs of the Crop without.

NOW I have diſpatched this Affair of the Memorial, I ſhall ſubjoin a Letter which I have receiv'd upon a much humbler Subject, to ſhow the Town, that I have them under my Inſpection from Head to Foot.

Mr. BICKERSTAFF,

"I Do not queſtion but that you muſt "have heard of a certain Club of little "Mortals which ſtarted up in your Ab- "ſence; as one of your Brother-Writers "condeſcended to take ſome notice of "them in his Precautions. I have the Ho- "nour of being a Member of the Society "which was form'd in oppoſition to them; "and which, I think I may ſay without "Partiality, has made a much greater Fi- "gure in the World than that of our Com- "petitors. But it is with no little Concern "that I inform you, that ſeveral of our "Party have of late begun to deſert us; "and that the Town in general ſeems ſo "inclinable to countenance our diminutive "Antagoniſts, that you ſhall hardly meet "with a Gentleman now-a-days who has "any higher Heels than a Chairman. As "you have formerly expreſs'd a very great "reſpect for the Family of the *Dappers*, and "have always appear'd very zealous for the "Honour and Glory of the *Britiſh* Nation; "I hope you will not fail of putting a Stop "to this levelling Humour, which tends ſo "manifeſtly to the leſſening of us in the "Eyes of all *Europe*. I am, SIR,

*Your conſtant Reader, and*
*Moſt Obedient Humble Servant.*

THO' I am very deſirous to have my Countrymen make as conſiderable a Figure in the World as any of their Neighbours; yet I do not care to engage myſelf in Party-Quarrels, and eſpecially at a time when the Slipperineſs of the preſent Seaſon ſeems to plead for a Toleration of the preſent Faſhion. Beſides, when I recollect with what becoming Zeal and Strength of Argument, that learned Phyſician and skilful Anatomiſt, Dr. *Edward Baynard*, has expoſed the Abſurdity (if not Immorality) of High-Heel Shoes, I think I may very well excuſe myſelf from burning my Fingers in the Diſpute.

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